Legend of Tanabata



This is the legend of Tanabata…

Long, long ago there was a lady called Orihime who wove the most beautiful clothes in the world. There was also a man named Hikoboshi, who was a person who took care of cows. They both lived by the Amanogawa (Milky Way).

One day they met each other. Orihime was very beautiful and Hikoboshi was very smart so they soon fell in love with each other. They started seeing each other nearly every day and did not do their work.

The sky god got very angry at this and separated them on each bays of the Amanogawa. Orihime and Hikoboshi were very sad and cried for days. The sky god felt sorry so he sent Crow and told him. “Tell Orihime and Hikoboshi that they can see each other once a year on 6th of July.”

Crow immediately flew to them but on his flight he forgot the date. So he said to them; “You guys can see each other once a year on 7th of July.”

Hikoboshi and Orihime were overjoyed and so each year on 7th of July, Hikoboshi and Orihime can see each other. And 7th of July is now called Tanabata, and that is the legend of Tanabata.

In Japan we celebrate Tanabata too. We look at the sky and try to spot shooting stars and sometimes we see the red moon. Tanabata is a special celebration to Japan.